

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Beginning with the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, the offending claims have been amended to not refer to "the common CID" and instead to recover the language of the claims as originally filed.

Turning now to the art rejections, the claims stand rejected as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,519,261 issued to Brueckheimer, et al. ("Brueckheimer '261"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,683,877 issued to Gibbs, et al. ("Gibbs"). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection, because neither Brueckheimer '261 or Gibbs teaches or suggests, for example, referring to claim 1 now, a method for dynamically establishing AAL2 channel identifiers on a call-by-call basis, using ATM standards-based call signaling protocols.

As explained in the Specification as filed, starting at page 7, lines 1-5,

A scheme for using a virtual UNI (user network interface) to allow standards-based signaling protocols (e.g., Q.2931) to be used to **manage the addition and deletion of AAL2 channel identifiers (CIDs)** associated with sub-multiplexed AAL2 common part sublayer cells (sub-cells) is described herein. [Emphasis added]

Also, on page 7, lines 14-24,

Carriers now face the problem of designing end-to-end switched voice solutions based on an ATM PNNI (private network to network interface) core network and ATM switching fabrics designed to handle the standard 53-byte cells, while still making use of the AAL2 multiplexing protocol to gain bandwidth efficiencies over CPE (customer premises equipment)-to-network communication links. The present scheme allows for such implementations by providing an algorithmic mapping between the VP/VC (virtual path/virtual circuit) that is referenced (e.g., in a cell header) in standards-based Q.2931/UNI protocols to the CID of sub-multiplexed cells within an AAL2 stream. Through this mechanism, it is possible to provide an end-to-end switched voice network service using PNNI or any other standard ATM networking protocol to establish end-to-end voice connectivity.

Regarding the signaling protocols now, the Specification also explains, at page 8, lines 12-14 and page 8, line 25 through page 9, line 3,

The UNI signaling protocols within the SAAL are responsible for ATM call and connection control, including call establishment, call clearing, status enquiry, and point-to-multipoint control. ...

The Q.2931 signaling protocol specifies the procedures for the establishment, maintenance and clearing of network connections at the B-ISDN (broadband integrated services digital network) user network interface. The procedures are defined in terms of messages exchanged and the basic capabilities supported by Q.2931 signaling include switched virtual channel (SVCO) connections, point-to-point switched channel connections, and VCI (virtual channel identifier) negotiations.

Accordingly, an embodiment of the invention is described in claim 1 as directed to call setup, as may be performed at the customer premises equipment, where the call setup occurs through the signaling process of a "regular" ATM standards-based protocol. See also page 9, lines 7-15,

Returning now to the present scheme, call set up at the CPE may be allowed to occur through the signaling process normally associated with the standards-based protocol (e.g., Q.2931 or UNI 3.1/4.0) in use. For example, and referring to **Figure 1**, a network 10 may be dynamically established with a voice system controller (VSC) 12. The VCS 12, in conjunction with a PNNI/SVC network, is responsible for translating call request based on dialed digits and selecting a specific output voice port. This information is used by the voice end point to make an SVC connection set up request into an ATM network 18. The VSC 12 determines the destination end point. The ATM network 18 is responsible for establishing the connection.

It is Applicant's belief that the method of claim 1 in which AAL2 channel identifiers are established **dynamically** on a call-by-call basis, using ATM standards-based call control signaling protocols, is different than the state of the art at the time of the invention which provided only **static** provisioning of AAL2 connections. Also, neither Brueckheimer '261 or Gibbs teaches or suggests the establishment of channel identifiers on a call-by-call basis, namely the use of a call control protocol to dynamically establish AAL2 calls.

As to claim 5, this claim has been amended to recover its original form, reciting the mapping of AAL2 channel identifiers to a virtual path/virtual channel that is within a standards-based ATM call protocol. In contrast, Brueckheimer '261 does not describe any particular method associated with the implementation of connection control. Neither is such an act taught or suggested by Gibbs, although Gibbs describes how a

virtual channel connection is agreed between gateways via a mutual exchange of session descriptors, it does not teach or suggest a mapping AAL2 channel identifiers to a virtual path/virtual channel within a "regular" ATM standards-based call control protocol.

CONCLUSION

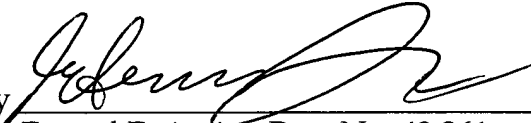
In sum, a good faith attempt has been made to explain why the rejection of the claims is improper, and how the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance referring to claims 1, 3, and 5-14, as amended here, is therefore respectfully requested to issue at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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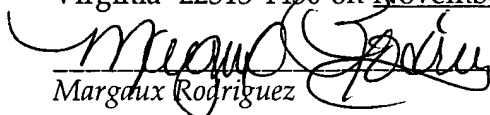
Dated: November 24, 2004

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on November 24, 2004.


Margaux Rodriguez November 24, 2004